

09/462631

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hisashi YAMADA and Akihiro GOTO

Appln. No.: ~~NOT YET ASSIGNED~~ 09/462631

PCT/JP98/04707, filed October 19, 1998

Filed: January 11, 2000

For: GREEN-COMPACT ELECTRODE FOR DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT, MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREFOR,
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT AND METHOD OF RECYCLING
GREEN-COMPACT ELECTRODE FOR DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents are submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed no later than three months from the application's filing date and therefore no certification under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

International Application No. PCT/JP98/01007 discloses that an electrode is used in a state where it is not pulled out from a die which has been used at the time of forming a green compact electrode, in order to prevent a crack, a broken, etc., of the green compact electrode.

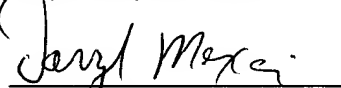
International Application No. PCT/JP98/01006 discloses that an electrode manufacturing method in which a silt metal such as silver is mixed with electrode powder and molded under compression and the electrode is stably manufactured under a low molding pressure.

Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Hei. 7-197275 discloses that a conductive fine ceramics is mixed with a metal that facilitates the production of a carbide and a binder made of a metal to be processed or a metal that is readily fused with the fine ceramics in a powder state, and compressed and molded to thereby produce an electrode to be used.

Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. Sho. 61-109613 discloses that a material such as a metal, an alloy particle or a thin fiber is bound by synthetic resin, coal tar or pitch binder to form an electrode.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Darryl Mexic
Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3202
Tel: (202) 293-7060
DM/clf
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